Representation to Increase State's Share

2419. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has represented to increase state's share on central revenue; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State's share of Central revenue is decided on the basis of the recommendations of the Finance Commission. The Finance Commission is expected to give its final report by 30th June, 2000.

Worsening of Poverty

2420. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the All India percentage of people below poverty line as in 1988 and in 1998;

(b) the reasons for worsening of poverty in Nineties inspite of reforms having no impact on national poverty ; and

(c) the measures proposed for poverty reduction in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission estimates the percentage of persons living below the poverty line at national and state level form the large sample survey on consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. The last such survey was conducted in 1993-94. The next large survey on consumer expenditure is being conducted during the

period, July 1999 to June, 2000. As such, the estimates of percentage of people living below the poverty line is 1998 are not available. However, comparing two latest estimates, it is observed that the percentage of people living below the poverty line declined from 38.86% in 1987-88 to 35.97% in 1993-94,

(c) There is a three pronged action to alleviate and reduce the poverty in the country. These are: (i) acceleration of economic growth, (ii) human and social development through literacy, education, health nutrition meeting of the minimum needs, elevation of social and economic status of the weaker section of the society, etc., and (iii) direct attack on poverty through employment and income generating programmes and assets-building for the poor.

Consumption Power of Family Units

2421. SHRI E. BALANANDAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the total number of family units in the country;

(b) the number of rich, middle class and the poor families are there among them, category-wise: and

(c) the consumption power of rich, middle-class and the poor families, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Using the household size in rural and urban areas, obtained from the National sample Survey data on consumer expenditure of the 50th Round (July 1993 to June 1994) and the projected population of the year, the number of households in the country in 1993-94 is estimated as 186.68 million.

(b) The Planning Commission estimates the percentage of persons living below the poverty line from the large sample surveys on consumer expenduture conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. As per the latest available estimate of poverty based on the National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure of the large survey of 50th Round (July 1993 to June 1994). 35.97% of the population lived below the poverty line. Using the family size of 5.495 persons in rural